

such as State statutes that require child passenger restraints in motor vehicles. Local initiatives requiring the use of bicycle helmets, fencing around swimming pools, and certain safety standards for playground equipment are also helping to reduce the risk of childhood injury. Of course, the success of these and other measures requires our vigilance and cooperation as parents and neighbors.

If we are to protect the lives and health of our Nation's children, then we must also redouble our efforts to stop the scourges of child abuse, drunk driving, and other crime. A stable, loving home and a safe, nurturing environment are essential to every youngster's physical well-being and emotional development.

Government cannot replicate the love and commitment of parents; neither can it fulfill their primary responsibility in caring for their children. However, public officials, parents, and physicians—as well as educators and other concerned Americans—can work together to promote the health and safety of our Nation's youth. Today, let us renew our resolve to do just that. Precious lives depend on it.

The Congress, by joint resolution approved May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 143), has called for the designation of the first Monday in October as "Child Health Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 7, 1991, as Child Health Day. I urge all Americans to join me in renewing our commitment to protecting the lives and health of this Nation's youngest citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6349 of October 7, 1991

National Firefighters Day, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

When you ask a group of youngsters what each would like to be when he or she grows up, frequently, at least one will reply: "a fireman!" Even though the aspirations of youth often change over time, it is, nonetheless, a very telling answer. Children as well as adults recognize the extraordinary courage of firefighters—and the tremendous importance of their work. On this occasion, Americans of all ages join in paying grateful tribute to the heroic individuals who serve our Nation as professional and volunteer firefighters.

The responsibilities of a firefighter often entail considerable personal risk and sacrifice. In addition to enduring what are sometimes long and unpredictable hours—a burden shared by the loved ones who must

cope with worry and waiting—firefighters are frequently called to put themselves in harm's way to protect the lives and the property of others. Today we remember in a special way those firefighters who have perished in the line of duty. Their great sacrifice underscores the risks that firefighters accept, each and every day, for our sake.

Professional and volunteer firefighters not only bring prompt, highly skilled assistance to victims of fire and other emergencies but also play a leading role in promoting public safety. Through schools and community programs across the country, firefighters are helping to educate the public—in particular, children—about ways to avoid fire and safety hazards. They are also teaching individuals what to do if an emergency strikes. Many firefighters who are also trained as paramedics and emergency medical technicians are helping to save lives by instructing citizens in first aid—including cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

In recognition of the lifesaving work of our Nation's firefighters, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 189, has designated October 8, 1991, as "National Firefighters Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 8, 1991, as National Firefighters Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6350 of October 8, 1991

National Disability Employment Awareness Month, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

No nation, no matter how wealthy, has ever been able to afford the waste of human talent and potential. That is particularly true today, as the world economy continues to grow in size and sophistication. If the United States is to remain strong and prosperous in the increasingly technological, increasingly competitive global marketplace, then we must employ the creativity, energy, and skills of all of our citizens—including the millions of Americans with disabilities who are both eager and able to work.

The estimated 43 million Americans who have disabilities constitute a rich, yet too often untapped, national resource. Because each of these Americans, like every other citizen, is a full heir to the promise of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," our Nation has a solemn obligation to provide them with equal opportunities in education and employment. Doing so is not just in the best interest of the United States, it is